Expansion of TV broadcasting industry

†3463. SHRI RAVISHANKAR PRASAD:

SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that television broadcasting industry has advanced continuously over the years;

(b) if so, the details thereof during 2004 to 2009;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Central and State Governments collect taxes from this industry;

(d) if so, the basis for tax collection and rates thereof; and

(e) the amount of average annual tax collection?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) Yes Sir. Number of private satellite TV channels has grown steadily over the years. From one private satellite TV channel in 2000, the number has grown to 512 at present.

(b) The year-wise details of the TV channels permitted to uplink/downlink under uplinking and downlinking guidelines are given below:

Years	Number of channels
2004	37
2005	24
2006	39
2007	75
2008	167
2009	77

(c) to (e) Yes Sir. Different methods are adopted by different States for levying Entertainment tax as follows:

i) Advalorem basis - varying from 15% to 30%.

ii) Per connection basis - varying from Rs.10 to Rs.25 per connection.

iii) Lump sum basis - Rs.15000/- p.a.

The rates of entertainment tax for DTH services vary from State to State. As of now, seven States have levied entertainment tax on DTH services. These are UP, Uttarakhand, Bihar, Goa, Rajasthan, Karnataka and Maharashtra. While Maharashtra, Goa and Bihar have levied it on per connection basis with rates ranging from Rs.15 to Rs.45 per connection, others have levied it as a percentage of amount received with rates varying from 6% to 30%. Central taxes such as Income Tax, Service Tax are also levied as may be applicable. The rate of Service Tax is 10.3% on subscription as well as advertisement revenue.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.